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'CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF IMPRESSIONISM' 30 May – 29 June 2024 At STERN PISSARRO GALLERY, St James's, London SW1



Camille Pissarro (1830-1903), *La Place du Havre, Effet de Pluie*, 1897.



Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1841-1919), *La Cueillette des fruits*, circa 1905.



Eugène Boudin (1824-1898), *Berck, groupe de pêcheuses assises sur la grève*, 1875.



Alfred Sisley (1839-1899), Bords du Loing, 1890.

Stern Pissarro, one of London's leading art galleries, is to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first Impressionist exhibition. From 30 May to 29 June 2024, directed by David Stern and Lélia Pissarro, the great-granddaughter of Camille Pissarro, the gallery will present a museum-quality exhibition of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works. Stern Pissarro's heritage makes it uniquely positioned to pay homage to the influential 1874 exhibition, to champion the art of Impressionist masters and shed light on the enduring legacy of the movement.

This important anniversary is being marked with exhibitions at major institutions including the Royal Academy in London, the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington. 'Celebrating 150 Years of Impressionism' at Stern Pissarro will hold added resonance because it marks the 60th anniversary of the gallery itself.

The first Impressionist exhibition in 1874 brought together thirty-one artists who sought liberation from rigid academic painting and was organised by Camille Pissarro, Claude Monet, Edgar Degas, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Alfred Sisley. This circle of artists, known for painting landscapes and contemporary life *en plein air*, emerged in reaction to routine rejection by the Salon de Paris and mockery at the Salon des Refusés. While the exhibition was criticised by the art establishment and the press, the now iconic term "Impressionist" was inadvertently coined in a satirical review by critic Louis Leroy. The public, initially sceptical, embraced Impressionism, and over time the movement flourished, marking the birth of modern art.

'Celebrating 150 Years of Impressionism' will feature paintings and works on paper by the movement's foremost trailblazers. On view will be landscapes by Pissarro, Monet and Sisley, portraits and landscapes by Renoir and port scenes by Boudin. Among the Post-Impressionists, there will be works by Henri Martin, Gustave Loiseau, Henri Lebasque, Claude-Émile Schuffenecker, and Lucien Pissarro. The exhibition will include works on loan from private collections, as well as those for sale.

For press information and images, please contact Sophie Money: smoney@moneyplusart.com + 44 (0)7718 002453

Celebrating 150 Years of Impressionism, 30 May – 29 June 2024 Stern Pissarro Gallery, 66 St James's Street, London SW1A 1NE <u>www.pissarro.art</u>

Notes to editors

Stern Pissarro Gallery is co-owned by David Stern and Lélia Pissarro, great-granddaughter of Camille Pissarro, ensuring that the link to Impressionism is strong. The gallery is a dedicated space for Impressionist, Modern and Contemporary art. The gallery represents five generations of works by the Pissarro family.

The architect Rodney Gordon built the Stern Pissarro gallery. The building stands out as a landmark of Modernist architecture situated as it is on St James's Street, near to St James's Palace, and home to the most exclusive gentlemen's clubs in London.